

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chairman Bob Lake, on March 24, 2009 at 8:00 A.M.,
in Room 152 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Mike Miller (R)
Rep. Art Noonan (D)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. Lee Randall (R)
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Jon Sonju (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch
Jennifer O'Loughlin, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 649, 3/19/2009; HB 658,
3/19/2009; HB 663, 3/23/2009;
HB 666, 3/24/2009; HB 673,
3/24/2009

Executive Action: None

00:01:00 Chairman Lake explained the process the committee will use to hear and evaluate the bills generated by the Joint Reappraisal Subcommittee.

HEARING ON HB 649

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:29 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 649, Revise amount of tax exempt business equipment.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:27 Eric Stern, Senior Legal Counsel, Governor's Office

[EXHIBIT\(tah65a01\)](#)

00:15:23 Dan Bucks, Director, Department of Revenue (DOR)

[EXHIBIT\(tah65a02\)](#)

00:27:01 Tom Bilodeau, MEA-MFT

Opponents' Testimony:

00:28:15 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:35:58 Chuck Denowh, Flathead Business and Industry Association

00:38:29 Bob Decker, The Policy Institute

00:45:22 Spook Stang, Montana Motor Carriers Association

00:48:16 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association

00:51:42 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:53:49 Rep. Noonan

00:54:27 Mr. Bucks

00:57:12 Chairman Lake

00:57:29 Rep. Butcher

00:59:29 Mr. Bucks

01:00:13 Rep. Taylor

01:00:55 Mr. Bucks

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:30 Rep. Cohenour

01:06:14 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 673

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:08:39 Rep. Brian Hoven (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on
HB 673, Narrowly mitigate reappraisal.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:21:59 Joe Roberts, Montana Association of Realtors

01:26:07 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Association of County Treasurers

Opponents' Testimony: None

01:27:46 Chairman Lake called a recess on this hearing and asked
Department of Revenue staff about the status of fiscal
notes for the reappraisal bills.

01:28:03 Alan Peura, Deputy Director, DOR

01:28:34 Chairman Lake

01:28:57 Mr. Peura

HEARING ON HB 666

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:29:38 Rep. Wayne Stahl (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on
HB 666, Mitigate property tax reappraisal and equalize
property taxes.

[EXHIBIT \(tah65a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:45:53 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association

Opponents' Testimony:

01:46:56 Tara Veazey, Montana Budget and Policy Center

01:50:34 Chairman Lake called a recess on HB 366 and suggested discussion among committee members and the sponsors of the reappraisal bills

01:51:26 Break

02:11:30 Reconvene

Discussion about Reappraisal Bills

02:12:50 Chairman Lake

02:13:36 Rep. Stahl

02:14:17 Rep. Blasdel

02:14:55 Mr. Martin, Legislative Services Division

02:15:03 Rep. Hoven

02:15:39 Rep. Blasdel

02:16:07 Rep. Jopek

02:17:40 Rep. Hoven

02:17:52 Rep. Jopek

02:18:35 Rep. Hoven

02:20:49 Rep. Jopek

02:21:36 Rep. Cohenour

02:23:54 Rep. Randall

02:25:20 Chairman Lake

02:25:33 Randy Wilke, Administrator, Property Assessment Division, DOR

02:25:45 Rep. Hoven

02:26:53 Rep. Barrett

02:28:08 Rep. Cohenour

02:28:46 Mr. Peura

02:29:11 Chairman Lake

02:29:29 Mr. Peura

02:30:18 Chairman Lake

02:30:49 Rep. Stahl

02:31:59 Rep. Taylor

02:33:17 Rep. Jopek

02:33:31 Rep. Taylor

02:34:04 Rep. Jopek

02:34:47 Rep. Stahl

02:35:06 Rep. Jopek

02:35:22 Chairman Lake

02:35:48 Rep. Jopek

02:36:43 Rep. Stahl

02:37:28 Rep. Miller

02:38:21 Rep. Jopek

02:38:54 Rep. Miller

02:39:00 Rep. Jopek

02:39:09 Rep. Stahl

02:40:08 Rep. Miller

02:40:20 Rep. Stahl

02:40:48 Rep. Miller
02:40:57 Rep. Cohenour
02:41:57 Rep. Miller
02:42:05 Rep. Cohenour
02:42:29 Rep. Hoven
02:43:16 Rep. Jopek
02:46:38 Rep. Miller
02:47:05 Chairman Lake
02:47:25 Rep. Miller
02:47:35 Chairman Lake
02:47:58 Rep. Stahl
02:50:34 Rep. Miller
02:50:47 Rep. Taylor
02:52:09 Rep. Stahl
02:54:07 Rep. Butcher
02:54:33 Rep. Stahl
02:55:04 Rep. Hoven
02:55:48 Rep. Stahl
02:56:15 Rep. Hoven
02:56:31 Rep. Stahl
02:57:02 Jim Standaert, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal
Division
02:58:36 Rep. Barrett
02:59:09 Mr. Standaert
02:59:36 Chairman Lake
03:00:00 Rep. Jopek
03:01:07 Chairman Lake
03:01:15 Rep. Stahl
03:01:35 Rep. Jopek
03:02:14 Rep. Stahl
03:02:20 Rep. Jopek
03:02:25 Mr. Martin
03:02:52 Rep. Hoven
03:03:00 Rep. Taylor
03:03:36 Chairman Lake
03:03:48 Mr. Martin
03:03:55 Chairman Lake
03:04:35 Rep. Butcher
03:05:00 Chairman Lake
03:05:33 Rep. Cohenour
03:05:39 Chairman Lake
03:06:00 Rep. Jopek
03:06:36 Chairman Lake

ADJOURNMENT

03:06:44 Adjournment: 11:20 A.M.

Jennifer O'Loughlin, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([tah65aad.pdf](#))